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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/746,222	12/26/2000	Masahiro Tada	04329.2484	1143

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EXAMINER

CAO, CHUN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2115

DATE MAILED: 10/07/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/746,222

Applicant(s)

TADA ET AL.

Examiner

Chun Cao

Art Unit

2115

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 July 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-3, 7-12 and 16-18 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 4-6 and 13-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12/26/00.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAIL ACTION

1. Claims 1-18 are presented for examination. Claims 1-3, 7-12 and 16-18 are withdrawn due the restriction rejection.
2. The text of those applicable section of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in the prior Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 4-6 and 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kamperschroer (Kamperschroer), U.S. patent no. 6,434,399.

As per claim 4, Kamperschroer discloses an information processing apparatus capable of communicating with a portable device by radio [fig. 2], comprising:

means for establishing a radio link to the portable device [col. 7, lines 16-21];

means for detecting a field strength in a state where the radio link has been established [col. 8, lines 30-38]; and

means for controlling a specified program on the basis of the field strength detected by said detection means [col. 10, lines 13-15, 32-37].

As per claim 5, Kamperschroer discloses that the specified program is a program for executing logoff processing of canceling a state of logon to said information processing apparatus from said portable device [col. 9, lines 34-39], and said controlling means activates the program when the field strength detected by said detection means lowers to a predetermined value [col. 8, lines 30-38; col. 10, lines 13-15, 32-37].

As per claim 6, Kamperschroer discloses that the specified program is a user program for personal information management, and said controlling means inhibits the user program when the field strength detected by said detection means lowers to a predetermined value [col. 8, lines 30-38; col. 10, lines 13-15, 32-37].

As to claims 13-15, Kamperschroer teaches the claimed system of claims 4-6. Therefore, Kamperschroer teaches the claimed method of steps to carry out the claimed system.

5. Applicant's argument with respect to claims 1-18 has been fully considered but is not persuasive.

6. In the remarks, applicant argued that claims 1-18 should all be examined as part of the same application.

7. The examiner respectfully traverses. The rejection is respectfully maintained. As indicated in prior office action:

Claims 1-3 and 10-12, drawn to: detecting a field strength for setting a power save state in an information processing apparatus, classified in class 713, subclass 320.

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Claims 4-6 and 13-15, drawn to: detecting a field strength for controlling a specific program in an information processing apparatus, classified in class 710, subclass 5.

Claims 7-9 and 16-18, drawn to detecting a field strength for executing logoff processing with user authentication information for an information processing apparatus, classified in class 713, subclass 168.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for Group I is not required for Groups II and III, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Akester et al, US patent No. 6,324,274 teaches of sending a logoff message if an user moves out of range [col. 1, line 65-col. 2, line 4].

Fujita, US patent No. 6,415,161 teaches of disconnecting a mobile device if the detected signal strength is lower than a predetermined value [col. 14, lines 31-38].

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

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Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121

Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chun Cao at (703) 308-6106 (571-272-3664, effective 10/14/2004). The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 7:30 am - 4:00 pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by phone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor Thomas Lee can be reached at (703) 305-9717 (571-272-3667, effective 10/14/2004). The fax number for this Art Unit is following: Official (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 306-5631 (571-272-2100, effective 10/14/2004).

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Chun Cao

Sep. 27, 2004